

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 15, 2022
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 P.M. BY MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS.

ALL STOOD FOR THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE.

PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD BY MUNICIPAL CLERK CAPASSO:

“IN COMPLIANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 10:4, OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, NOTICE WAS GIVEN TO TWO NEWSPAPERS, AND POSTED, THAT A WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED FOR THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2022, WITH THE WORK SESSION TO BEGIN AT THE HOUR OF 7:30 P.M. AND THE REGULAR MEETING TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AT THE LAKEHURST COMMUNITY CENTER, 207 CENTER STREET, LAKEHURST, NEW JERSEY, AT WHICH TIME, THE BUSINESS OF THE BOROUGH WILL BE CONDUCTED.”

ROLL CALL:

COUNCILMAN DAVIS: PRESENT	COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT
COUNCILMAN DiMEO: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: ABSENT
COUNCILWOMAN DUGAN: PRESENT	COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT	

WORK SESSION:

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

CANNABIS COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATION FOR CANNABIS BUSINESSES TO THE GOVERNING BODY:

Councilman DiMeo stated the Cannabis Committee had met several times over the past few weeks reviewing cannabis business applications that were received. Mr. DiMeo also stated that the committee had received many applications for both retail zones as well as for the light industrial zone. Mr. DiMeo went on to say after reviewing the applications, the Cannabis Committee would like to recommend the following:

- 1) Life Extracts LLC for a Class 2 Cannabis Manufacturer License in the Light Industrial Zone

- 2) Stoke Industries LLC for a Class 5 Cannabis Retail License in the B-1 Downtown Business Zone, to be located at 112 Center Street.
- 3) C3 Lakehurst LLC for a Class 5 Cannabis Retail License in the B-2 Highway Business Zone, to be located at the 145 Route 70, the old Burger King lot.

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan

Seconded by: James Davis

To accept the Cannabis Committee's recommendations for cannabis businesses and to add Resolution Supporting the Cannabis Licenses to the Consent Agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

Mayor Robbins stated the Cannabis Committee discussed opening the western corridor of Route 70 for a second Class 5 Cannabis Retail License in the B-2 Highway Business Zone. Mayor Robbins explained that Route 70, known as the B-2 Highway Business Zone, is divided into two parts, western corridor and eastern corridor. Mayor Robbins further explained that the borough approved a cannabis retail business at the old Burger King location adding that is in the eastern corridor. Mayor Robbins stated the Cannabis Ordinance allows only one retail in the B-2 zone and added that the Cannabis Committee would like to amend the ordinance to allow two cannabis businesses in the B-2 zone.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:38 p.m.

Paula Givens, Director of Compliance for Sterling Property Holdings LLC, stated Sterling Property Holdings LLC submitted a Class 5 Retail License application for the Gulf Station property and asked if that location is in the western corridor where the Cannabis Committee is looking to open for another cannabis retail business.

Mayor Robbins replied that location is not in the western corridor.

Ms. Givens stated Sterling Property Holdings LLC proposed 23 parking spaces and believes that is sufficient for the cannabis retail business. Ms. Givens went on to say that the abandon Burger King property is in isolation and has the parking needed and added if the cannabis committee should allow a cannabis retail business at the Gulf Station property, Sterling Property Holdings LLC will submit a parking plan that indicates sufficient parking.

Time closed: 7:40 p.m.

Council President Oglesby stated he has been vocal for the past few months about the street light outage on Church Street and reported that JCP&L has responded that the part that is needed to repair the light is on backorder.

Mr. Oglesby also stated he has been vocal with the beach sand as well and thanked Councilman Davis for his report and his due diligence.

Motion by: Bernadette Dugan

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council President Oglesby reported the Ordinance Committee will be meeting shortly to amend the ordinances.

Councilwoman Dugan reported the Public Works Committee had met with Dave Winton, Public Works Department Head, and added that the athletic fields have been lined and will be relined by Dave Burton, Board of Education Board Member, as needed. Ms. Dugan also reported that the 2007 mason dump truck is in need of repair adding Mr. Winton will get an estimate for the repairs.

Ms. Dugan further reported that the Lakehurst Historical Society will be hosting a trolley tour as well as a walking tour of the Borough of Lakehurst on Sunday, September 18th, at 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. and added the Cathedral of Air will also be open that day for visitors.

Mayor Robbins questioned the mason dump truck repair.

Councilman Davis answered the mason dump truck bed had rotted and the hydraulics are not working properly. Mr. Davis stated the hydraulics will be pulled to make sure there is no damage to the chassis and added if all is well, Mr. Winton will get estimates for the truck bed.

Mr. Davis reported the bids for the 2022 NJDOT Rose and Pine Street project came in too high and added the borough will have to go out to rebid. Mr. Davis also reported the cost of the beach sand used at Lake Horicon is \$5.25 a ton compared to a heavier sand at \$11.75 a ton adding at this time Public Works will continue to sweep the sand back on the beach and regroup back in the spring. Mr. Davis went on to say this winter, Public Works will put up a snow fence to prevent the sand blowing across the street.

Mr. Davis made the governing body aware that some people, independently, are looking to lobby for donations to help extent the holiday lights down Union Avenue.

Mr. Davis reported recycling revenue that was “shut down” is now back and added the borough received \$3,429 for 6 months’ worth of recycling. Mr. Davis also reported that Mr. Winton had hired a new Public Works employee and added he will be starting Monday.

Mr. Oglesby voiced his concern over the decline in honeybees and monarch butterflies due to pesticides. Mr. Oglesby encouraged everyone to plant a butterfly garden this spring adding no bees, no food, and it beautifies your yard.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 7:47 p.m.

Debby Pease, 305 Manapaqua Avenue, requested that National Night Out be moved back to the Fuccile Park adding there is a nicer “flow” for pedestrian traffic.

Mayor Robbins responded that National Night Out is sponsored by the Police Department and will forward her request.

Mrs. Pease questioned the potholes along Proving Ground Road.

Mayor Robbins answered that is a borough road and the Public Works Committee will inform Dave Winton, Public Works Department Head, of the potholes.

Giovanni, Eagle Scout, discussed his Eagle Scout Project. Giovanni stated he would like to make benches to place alongside the trail behind Lake Horicon and picnic tables at the end of trail.

Councilwoman Dugan stated there is boundary line that separates Manchester Township and Lakehurst Borough adding the tax map will show the boundary line.

Mayor Robbins added the project sounds great and asked Giovanni to give his phone number to Municipal Clerk Capasso who will provide a tax map for him.

Gene Megill, 850 Route 70, stated that there have been quite a few issues with kids that are being disruptive at the Dollar General Plaza asking if the borough can do something to prevent it.

Mayor Robbins responded that the police need to be called.

Ms. Dugan added that there is a curfew that can be enforced.

Time closed: 7:55 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reads resolution to go into closed session:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P. L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, **and**

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

